



**U.S. Department of Justice**

*United States Attorney  
Southern District of New York*

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New York, New York 10007*

September 2, 2020

**BY ECF**


The Honorable Ronnie Abrams  
United States District Court  
Southern District of New York  
40 Foley Square  
New York, New York 10007

**Re: *United States v. John Galanis*, 16 Cr. 371 (RA)**

Dear Judge Abrams:

The parties jointly write in response to the Court's order of September 1, 2020 to apprise the Court of the parties' view with respect to (i) whether the Court has jurisdiction to grant Galanis's § 2255 Motion during the pendency of his appeal; and (ii) whether the Court can resentence Galanis by written order.

The parties agree that the Court lacks jurisdiction to grant Galanis's § 2255 Motion during the pendency of his appeal. *See, e.g., United States v. Ransom*, 866 F.2d 574, 575–76 (2d Cir. 1989) (district court “lack[s] authority” to order “substantive modifications of judgments” during the pendency of an appeal). The parties also agree that a full resentencing is neither necessary nor warranted. Section 2255 explicitly gives a district court wide discretion in deciding the appropriate remedy after granting such a motion. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2255(b) (“the court shall vacate and set the judgment aside and shall discharge the prisoner or resentence him or grant a new trial or correct the sentence as may appear appropriate”); *See, also, Carranza v. United States*, 794 F.3d 237, 241 (2d Cir. 2015) (recognizing that the remedy for a granted 2255 petition may not be a new trial or a full resentencing). Thus, where, as here, the issue is merely a correction to the structure of the sentence imposed, the Court can and should issue an amended judgment without further proceedings.

  
Hon. Ronnie Abrams  
9/2/2020